

October 5, 2009

Department of Energy  
Bonneville Power Administration  
P.O. Box 491  
Vancouver, WA 98666-0491

re: TEP-TPP-3

I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project

Gentlemen:

The undersigned are owners of the property described herein:

Trustees of the Daley Family Trust dated August 25, 1993.

The property is commonly known as 29909 N.E. Hantwick Rd. Yacolt, WA. 098675.

The property is further identified as Clark County Tax parcels:

231377; 231136; and 231351

abbreviated legal descriptions are:

# 27 Sec 10-4 SE WM 12 AM/C

18 Sec 9-4 SE WM 19.31A

1 Sec 10-4 SE WM 26AM/L

all in Tax area 11903.

Our property is situated on the south bank of the East Fork of the Lewis River and on a portion of the north side of the river.

It is improved with a house, well, and storage building.

The property was acquired by the owner's family in 1925 and three cabins were erected in 1937 and 1939. Two cabins have been destroyed, but the County acknowledges the owner's right to reestablish the cabins.

The county has imposed zoning restrictions and use limitations in order to preserve the East Fork of the Lewis River as a wild and scenic river. The owner has protected and preserved the property in its pristine and natural state.



Objections are hereby made to contemplated transmission lines being installed on our property or in the vicinity of said river on the following grounds:

1. River banks will be denuded of protective trees and other vegetation allowing the fish, plant and animal habitats to be impacted.

a. Steelhead, trout, salmon, and cutthroat trout use areas of the river for spawning.

b. Bald eagles nest in trees along the river.

c. Deer forage on the banks of the river.

d. Game birds are also found along the river.

2. Aesthetic considerations are violated by the erection of transmission towers.

Clark County has sought to protect the habitat and recognizes the East Fork of the Lewis River as "the largest undammed river that flows through Clark County, " according to Bill Dygert of the Conservation Futures Program.

The U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals recognized that a local government agency could pay heed to the aesthetic benefits of landscape unmarred by the accoutrements of modern public utilities.

Palos Verdes Estates vs Sprint (October 2009).

3. Demand for additional power has not been demonstrated. The Battleground, Amboy and Yacolt areas have not been developed with manufacturing sites. Residential use is nominal.

4. The major corridors of development are located to the west of the I-5 Highway, and these areas should bear the burden of the new transmission lines and distribution of power.

Submitted November 4, 2009 by  
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Congressman Henry Waxman  
30<sup>th</sup> District  
8436 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Suite 600  
Los Angeles, CA 90048

Re: Clean Energy Bill

Dear Congressman Waxman,

In his speeches to the American people President Obama has stressed the need for "clean energy" and a solution to the problem of global warming. Most of us would agree that "clean energy" is a good idea. Unfortunately, it seems, President Obama took some steps to prepare the American people for wind farms, solar farms, geothermal power plants, and new transmission lines without considering the devastating impacts these might have on our environment. For more than a year we have endured Southern California Edison's propaganda, exemplified in its TV commercial "As America gets more of these (babies), we need more of these (wind farms and transmission lines.)" Fortunately one landowner, aided by a photo journalist, successfully challenged one proposed route for transmission lines, because it threatened to despoil an area of scenic and environmentally sensitive desert. The story "Getting Clean Green Energy to Where It's Needed in LA" appeared on the PBS News Hour on KCET on October 28, 2009.

Also in October of 2009 the Bonneville Power Administration mailed hundreds of letters to landowners in southwest Washington state threatening to cut a 150 foot wide path through pristine forests and scenic farmland to erect unsightly towers and transmission lines for the purpose of linking the power hub of Troutdale, OR. with Castle Rock, WA. There isn't very much in Castle Rock, but it is the gateway to Mount Saint Helens National Volcanic Monument. Even if the explosive volcano were stable enough for an unobtrusive geothermal power plant, it would not be appropriate to cut a wide swath through a hundred miles of pristine forest to transmit the power to the Portland/ Vancouver, WA area. BPA's proposed route 30 cuts across our property along the scenic and wild East Fork of



the Lewis River near Yacolt, WA. We are petitioning BPA to abandon this route. (We enclose a copy of our letter to BPA.)

If new transmission lines are needed, they should be installed underground in existing rights-of-way such as along the I-5 freeway. One BPA representative complained that it might cost BPA 10 times as much to put the lines underground. BPA's assessments of the cost of putting the wires overhead are not comprehensive. No monetary value is assigned to beauty lost as a result of the installation of the ugly power lines. No monetary value is assigned to the small native plants and wildlife that would be killed or displaced by the project. Old growth forests of southwest Washington where the proposed transmission routes are located contain up to 10 times more living matter than similar sized forests in eastern North America (Pojar and MacKinnon, Plants of the Pacific Northwest Coast, pg. 36.) A fire caused by a downed power line in southwest Washington could release as much as 10 times the amount of carbon into the atmosphere as a similar fire in eastern North America. The costs of installing overhead transmission lines could turn out to be staggering.

Some of the same problems that plague wind farms also plague solar farms. We should not be uprooting California's unique and beautiful native shrubs such as Manzanita, Sage, Ceanothus and Tree Anemone (*Carpenteria californica*) to make room for solar panels in the foothills of the Sierras. The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power should not be permitted to construct an 80 square mile solar farm in the Owens Lake area of our Owens Valley. The desolate, natural beauty of the Owens Valley, the mountains bordering the valley, and the Mojave Desert should be protected for generations to come.

Although there may be some important roles for solar energy in the buildings of our urban areas, solar farms and wind farms are not appropriate answers to America's energy problems.

It is now generally acknowledged that it was a mistake to dam the Hetch Hetchy. Hopefully, Congressman Waxman, we won't make a similar mistake today.

Sincerely,

